

The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear The Federal Communications Commission,

Congratulations on your appointment to Chair the FCC. In your new leadership role, I urge you to support the "Fair Share Plan" as a solution to current concerns with the Universal Service Fund (USF). The Fair Share Plan will keep the USF fair, ensuring that consumers like me do not pay the same rate into the USF as big businesses, regardless of how little I may use long distance.

The Keep USF Fair Coalition submitted the Fair Share Plan to the FCC on January 31, 2005. It expands who pays into the USF so that other technologies - not just phones - pay into the system. The Fair Share Plan collects the USF using a combination numbers- and revenue-based plan. This keeps the system fair, equitable and non-discriminatory.

Under the flat fee or numbers-based plan you are considering, people like me who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. I believe it would be unfair to charge low-volume and residential customers the same fees as high-volume residential or business customers.

I urge you to keep the USF fair, and adopt the Fair Share Plan. Thank you, and best of luck in your new position.

PLEASE NOTE::: I live in a rural area, and while we have been paying USF's for several years now, I have seen no improvement in our telephone service. We continue to have NO high-speed internet access available to us, and the dial-up service is very unreliable--especially when there is windy weather. The cost of higher speed satellite access is prohibitive. I had understood filling this gap was part of the reason for the USF in the first place. As long as cell phone programs are able to keep their costs down, they can provide more affordable telephone service in rural areas than does the landline phone company. I believe that the more fees you add, the LESS phone service is available in rural areas. Please consider carefully whether such fees actually improve things from the citizen/consumer's point of view.

Thank you for your consideration.

cc: Marlene Dortch, Secretary

Sincerely,

Pam Allen
6140 S. Lemon Rd
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